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PATENT APPLN. NO. 10/809,875  
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

PATENT  
NON-FINAL

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The paragraph beginning at page 18, line 13 has been amended as follows:

[Measurement of Area Contraction Ratio of Separator]

A separator A of 20mm × 30mm (of which the thickness is 15 μm, the porous ratio is 42% and the shut-down temperature is 148°C) and a separator X (of which the thickness is 15 μm, the porous ratio is 40% and the shut-down temperature is 135°C) are prepared respectively and both ends of each separator are secured to a glass plate with a heat resistant imide tape and then, the separator was left for 30 minutes in a thermobath at 120°C and after that, the separator is gradually cooled at room temperature so that the area ( $\alpha$  mm<sup>2</sup>) of the separator after cooling was measured. The results of the calculation of the area contraction ratio (%) =  $\frac{\alpha \text{ mm}^2}{(20 \times 30 - \alpha) \text{ mm}^2} \times 100$  of each separator at 120°C are shown in Table 1.